



IN THE US PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

March 3, 2004

Applicants: Armin Diez

Title : AT LEAST SUBSTANTIALLY METALLIC
CYLINDER HEAD GASKET

Serial No.: 10/052 468

Filed : January 23, 2002

Examiner: Kyle

Confirmation No. 6440

Group: 3676

Box AF

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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MAR 11 2004

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above application as follows:

GROUP 3600

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (previously presented) Cylinder head gasket with an at least substantially metallic gasket plate comprising at least one sheet metal layer and having at least one combustion chamber opening surrounded by at least one bead formed in a sheet metal layer of said gasket plate and being elastically deformable in height, wherein for delimiting such deformation of said bead at least one of said sheet metal layers is provided with at least one delimiting device close to said bead, said delimiting device having a height enabling said bead to be elastically deformed in height and preventing complete flattening of said bead, and said delimiting device having at least one deformation in said sheet metal layer such that